

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Final Rejection mailed October 9, 2007. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment as it places the claims in better form for allowance or appeal. Reconsideration of the rejections set forth therein in light of the following remarks are courteously requested. A Request for continued Examination is respectfully filed concurrently herewith.

Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-16 19-21, 24-25 and 29-33 have been canceled without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution of this application. Claims 8, 14, 17 and 27 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of the claims from which they originally depended. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file such claims in a divisional or continuation application. Basis for these amendments may be found in the original claims. No new matter has been added.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner for indicating that, in addition to claims 22-24, claims 34-37 are now allowable. The Office Action also indicated that claims 8, 14, 17 and 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 8, 14, 17 and 27 have been rewritten and applicants respectfully request an allowance of these claims.

The Final Rejection of October 9, 2007 again rejected claims 6, 7, 9-13, 15, 16, 25, 26 and 28-33 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,139,848 to Ahmad et al. While applicants respectfully submit that Ahmad et al. neither describes nor suggests the compositions and methods of applicants' invention, applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot in light of the foregoing amendments to the claims. An early allowance is courteously solicited.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 10-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 30, 2007